

Fairview Middle School Community Outreach / Green Activities 2004-2008

- For many years, Fairview Middle School involved the community in recycling by collecting phone books
- Fairview Middle School families are encouraged through the principal's electronic newsletter to donate printer ink cartridges and retired cell phones at the school instead of throwing them in household trash
- Community volunteers donated labor and materials, such as concrete, to construction of Fairview Middle School's outdoor classroom pavilion
- On Earth Day last year (April 21, 2007), school and community volunteers worked tirelessly cleaning up a pond and wooded area between Fairview Middle School and Fairview High School. The vision was to cultivate this pond area into a living classroom and tranquil setting. Students and community members from Fairview could ultimately use this area as a living classroom by studying plant types, taking water samples, or simply reading, writing, or drawing in the peaceful, quiet setting. After the initial clean-up activity last spring, volunteers cleared out overgrowth and dead trees over the summer. The 2008 Senior Class of Fairview High School took on this vision as their senior project. They established trails, rebuilt bridges, and spread mulch. Community members were generous in donating the mulch and other materials. Thanks to a \$1200 award the Recycling Team received last fall for Outstanding Achievement in Paper Recycling, these students decided to donate \$900 to completely fund the seniors' remaining expenses. On May 21, 2008, Fairview Middle School Principal, Brian Bass, walked to the pond with the Recycling Team and me. We wanted to show the kids first-hand what their hard work had produced. The area is now a beautiful, calm setting.

